CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Shortages of Raw Materials at Various East German Telecommunications Equipment Plants

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Raw material shortages affecting the production of various communications equipment is particularly acute in the following plants:

Werk fuer Fernmeldewesen "HF", Berlin-Oberschoeneweide
Funkwerk Erfurt
Roehrenwerk Muehlhausen
Roehrenwerk Neuhaus
Roentgen-Roehrenwerk Rudolstadt

2. In order to combat this shortage of materials, Heinrich Rau, Chief of the Office for Control and Coordination of Industry and Transport, requested the technical experts of the plants concerned to suggest which materials should be imported immediately and which measures should be instituted to effect domestic production of formerly imported materials at the production plants under the Ministry of Mining and Smelting.

3. As a result of the suggestions made by these technical experts, it was decided to import immediately the following:

Material	Additional Requirements for 1953	Preliminary 1954 Demands (Vorlauf 1954)
a. Nickel "E and EA", band, wire, tubing, etc. (also for production of Finkdraht and Fenico. Raw material: electrolytic nickel-Mondnickel)	38 Tons	12 - 50 Tons
b. Cathode nickel "A, B, and H".	2 Tons	0.4 Tons-2.4 Tons
c. Cobalt, pure (pieces)	150 Kilograms	40 Kilograms-190 Tons
d. OFHC - Copper (Band and Rods) (containing no oxygen)	20 Tons	2 - 22 Tons
e. Molybdenum (Bands)	3 Tons	1 - 4 Tons
f. Tantalum (Bands)	10 Kilograms	5 Kilograms-15 Tons
g. Fenico (Kovar) (Bands)	800 Kilograms	200-1000 Kilograms
h. Chromic iron (Wire)	100 Kilograms	25-125 Kilograms
i. P2 - Iron (Bands)	-	5 - 5 Tons
j. N2 - Iron (Bands)	600 Kilograms	200-800 Kilograms
k. Nickel-coated copper wire	2 Tons	0.8 - 2.8 Tons
l. Beryllium (metallic)	4.2 Kilograms	1 - 5.2 Kilograms

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Material (Cont'd.)	Additional Requirements for 1953	Preliminary 1954 Demands (Vorlauf 1954)
m. Cerium (mixed metal)	15 Kilograms	4 - 19 Kilograms
n. Mica (for radio tubes)	10 Tons	5 - 15 Tons
o. Thorium nitrate	50 Kilograms	10 - 40 Kilograms

Materials under a, b, d, and o are considered to be the most critical items as the available supply will last only until the end of July.

4. Rau strongly recommended that the Halbzeugwerke Auerhammer, producing semi-finished materials, should receive immediate orders to produce the following material for the Ministry of Mining and Smelting:

"Cuni 45" (for television tubes), and "Feni 42" (bars) after 1 August 1953; nickel-coated copper wire after 1 September 1953; iron, "Fenico", chromic iron, P2 iron, PN iron, and N2 iron after 1 October 1953.

5. As the materials presently in short supply had to be imported in the past and the import prices usually remained high on the international market, a domestic production of the material was urged. The technical experts and managing directors of the tube production plants were of the opinion that the Auerhammer works would be able to produce better quality materials three or four times cheaper than the imported ones.

6. The material shortages listed above are only a partial list of materials needed for the communications equipment production program. However, the technical experts of the various plants were of the opinion that all obstacles and material shortages, as for instance tungsten wire, various kinds of nickel, molybdenum, chromic iron, etc; could be solved through the initiative of the plants themselves without using the support of the East German government.